

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONGRATULATING REBECCA BUCK AS A FINALIST FOR THE 2024 EDUCATION MINNESOTA TEACHER OF THE YEAR

**HON. ANGIE CRAIG**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 13, 2024*

Ms. CRAIG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank and congratulate Rebecca Buck on being a finalist for Education Minnesota's 2024 Teacher of the Year.

Rebecca has taught in District 191 for twelve years, being recognized as the 2020 recipient of the district's Spirit of Excellence Award, which honors employees who exemplify the best of what District 191 strives for. As an elementary school music teacher, she is an inspiration to her community and the students she works with. Her dedication and passion shine through the connections she makes with her students and their love for music.

Ms. Buck strives to practice and advocate for equitable, inclusive education, ensuring students in her class are represented in the curriculum and have opportunities to share their own cultures with classmates. This recognition by her peers and officials at Education Minnesota is supported by the immense appreciation for her contribution to public service in my district.

I am honored to recognize Rebecca Buck today as a model for meaningful educators, and I thank her for the work she is doing to create community in her classrooms.

ILLEGITIMATE WAR CRIMINAL  
PUTIN

**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 13, 2024*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, having the extraordinary opportunity to visit the people of Russia beginning in 1990 from St. Petersburg to Moscow to Novosibirsk to Chelyabinsk (which is the Sister City of my state capital, Columbia), I believe facts reveal that war criminal Putin's presidency is non-binding and not a direct or legitimate representation of the Russian people.

The inspiring people of Russia deserve better than endless corruption and dictatorship. War criminal Putin has shown time and time again that he is willing to subvert the law and the will of the people by continuing to enrich himself and his cronies. The United States should make it clear that it will not recognize desperate attempts by Putin to cling to power and continue murderous activities, enriching oligarchs across the globe.

I have introduced bipartisan resolutions with Tennessee Congressman Steve Cohen noting that the election irregularities that kept Putin in power made his continuation in office illegit-

imate. In March 2024, H. Res. 1087 stated that ". . . any attempt by the President of the Russian Federation Vladimir Putin to remain in office beyond May 7, 2024, shall warrant non-recognition on the part of the United States."

Author, professor, and journalist David Satter, a former Financial Times Moscow correspondent and former senior fellow at the Hudson Institute, has documented the basis of overwhelming evidence, the September 1999 apartment bombings which brought Putin to power were carried out by the Russian security services, and that the Putin regime has been illegitimate since the first day of his accession to power.

Satter's writings in National Review, August 17, 2016, and his book, *The Less You Know, the Better You Sleep: Russia's Road to Terror and Dictatorship Under Yeltsin and Putin* (Yale University Press), include the following analysis and perspectives:

"The bombings in the cities of Buynaksk, Moscow, and Volgograd killed more than 300 persons and injured hundreds of others. They were blamed without evidence on Chechen terrorists and used as a pretext to start a new war against the semi-independent Republic of Chechen. When Putin was put in charge of the war his popularity soared, making it possible for him to be elected as Russia's second post-Soviet president in March 2000.

"It is clear, however, that what had taken place was the greatest political provocation since the burning of the Reichstag. In an almost unbelievable slipup, Gennady Seleznev, the Speaker of the Duma and a close Putin associate, announced in the Duma on September 13, 1999, that a building in Volgograd had been blown up. The building that had blown up on that day was in Moscow. A building in Volgograd was blown up three days later, on September 16, 1999.

"On September 17, 1999, Vladimir Zhirinovskiy, head of the Liberal Democratic party at the time, demanded an explanation from Seleznev on how he had known about the bombing in advance. Zhirinovskiy stood at the podium in the Duma and shouted, "Do you see what is happening in this country? You say an apartment building was blown up on Monday and it explodes on Thursday. This can be evaluated as a provocation." Seleznev refused to give a response, and Zhirinovskiy's microphone was shut off while continuing to insist on one.

"In March 2002, *Noviy Investiya*, a daily newspaper published in Moscow, Russia, obtained the transcript of Seleznev's words on September 13, 1999. Which were: "Here is a communication which they transmit. According to a report from Rostov-on-Don today, this past night, an apartment house was blown up in the city of Volgogradsk." When asked who informed him of the bombing three days in advance, he responded, "Believe me, not [exiled oligarch Boris] Berezovsky," who had accused Putin of orchestrating the bombing. Seleznev then said that on September 13, 1999, he was referring to an explosion in Volgogradsk on September 15, 1999, that was part of a war between criminal gangs and caused no deaths. Even if Seleznev was referring to this explosion on September 15, how was he aware of it two days in advance, on September 13?"

"On September 22, 1999, a fifth bomb was discovered and quickly deactivated in the basement of a building in Ryazan. The bomb was found to be planted not by Chechen terrorists but by agents of the Russian FSB. On September 24, 1999, Head of the FSB, Nikolai Patrushev, stated that the bomb was a dummy, planted as part of a training exercise in Ryazan. Although, the bomb tested positive for hexogen, the same explosive used in the four successful apartment bombings in Buynaksk, Moscow, and Volgogradsk. Not a single local government agency in Rayzan, including the local branch of the FSB, was informed in advance of the "exercise," even though Russian law on civil defense requires any exercise in residential areas are planned and confirmed in advance with local officials. For two days, local authorities in Ryazan believed they were dealing with an attempted terrorist attack while official Russian media continued to inform people that an attempted terrorist attack had been averted and Russian air force began the bombing of Grozny, the capital city of the Chechen Republic.

"On February 2002, after three failed motions in the Duma to investigate the Ryazan incident failed due to opposition from the pro-Putin Unity party, a group of Duma deputies and human-rights activists formed a public commission to discover the truth on their own. Among these members were Sergei Yushenkov, Yuri Shechekochikhin, Anna Politkovskaya, and Alexander Litvinenko, who were all murdered by 2006. This developed a fear in people to investigate or question the September 1999 apartment bombings and how Putin came into power.

"The terror regime in Russia began with the 1999 apartment bombings, which served as a prelude for the attack on the Beslan school with grenades and flamethrowers that killed nearly 300 hostages, most of them children, in 2004, the shooting down of the MH17 civilian airliner in 2014 and the Russian war against Ukraine with its human wave attacks from the Russian side and hundreds of thousands of casualties.

Speaking the full truth about the Putin regime is the first step toward ending the carnage";

HONORING RICK AND SUSAN  
WILCOX FOR THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE RICK WILCOX  
MAGIC THEATER

**HON. MARK POCAN**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 13, 2024*

Mr. POCAN. Mr. Speaker, I include in the Record the following Proclamation Honoring Rick and Susan Wilcox for the 25th Anniversary of the Rick Wilcox Magic Theater:

Whereas Rick Wilcox was intrigued by magic at age 10, began his magic career astonishing guests at a restaurant in Brookfield, Wisconsin during high school, funded his UW-Madison degree with magic shows, and has never stopped pursuing his passion for magic and illusion;

Whereas Rick became a nationally sought-after act for corporate events with his showmanship and quick wit, and while managing

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

his entertainment business full-time, he married Susan in 1996 who happily became his business partner and eventually agreed to join him on stage;

Whereas Rick and Susan Wilcox, despite the glamour of performing around the world, determined to bring their business home to Wisconsin, and with extraordinary encouragement from their families, purchased and renovated a neglected, unoccupied 550-seat theater in Wisconsin Dells, transforming it into an economic, employment and enchantment engine for the region;

Whereas The Rick Wilcox Magic Theater became the first-of-its-kind when it opened on May 17, 1999: a theater dedicated to the art of magic, entirely owned, operated, and headlined by its namesake,

Whereas Since 1999, as owners and performers, Rick and Susan Wilcox have managed every aspect of their small business: producing and starring in thousands of shows for Midwestern families, hiring hundreds of staff members, maintaining the theater and property, and delighting tens of thousands with their unique on-stage chemistry, and mix of family-friendly comedy and illusion;

Whereas Rick and Susan Wilcox, by unanimous vote of their peers, won the magic community's most prestigious award, the 2024 Milbourne Christopher Illusionist Award, placing these two Wisconsin natives among the pantheon of magic's most-celebrated illusionists, including such past winners as David Copperfield, Doug Henning, Harry Blackstone, Lance Burton, and Siegfried and Roy;

Whereas The Rick Wilcox Magic Theater is nationally recognized as "Wisconsin's Best" on the Reader's Digest list of "The 50 Best Family Travel Destinations in Each State," is the No. 1 rated activity in Wisconsin Dells by TripAdvisor, and continues to be a central part of the tourism industry in Wisconsin, and

Whereas The Rick Wilcox Magic Theater celebrated a remarkable milestone on May 17, 2024: 25 amazing years in business, and will continue to be a central part of the tourism industry in Wisconsin Dells; and

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved That I, Mark Pocan, U.S. Congressman for Wisconsin's Second District, do hereby express my sincere appreciation to the Rick Wilcox Magic Theater and Rick and Susan Wilcox for their incredible 25 years of bringing magic, comedy, and joy to families in Wisconsin.

CELEBRATING LOS ANGELES BOYS  
AND GIRLS CLUB'S 80TH ANNI-  
VERSARY

**HON. JIMMY GOMEZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 13, 2024*

Mr. GOMEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate and honor the Los Angeles Boys and Girls Club for their 80 years of providing essential services to some of the most vulnerable residents in California's 34th Congressional District.

Founded in 1944, the Los Angeles Boys and Girls Club has nurtured and empowered generations of youth and families, providing them with essential resources and opportunities for growth.

Over the years, the Los Angeles Boys and Girls Club has evolved, adapted, and ex-

panded to meet the changing needs of the Northeast Los Angeles community.

Some of the essential services provided by the Los Angeles Boys and Girls Club include developmental programming for children, academic support, sports, psycho-educational groups, leadership development, pre-employment preparation, art and dance, and gang prevention and intervention.

These programs have resulted in improved math proficiency, improved reading test scores, a lifelong interest in regular exercise leading to an improved health-conscious habits that prioritize health, and proper nutrition for the youth of Northeast Los Angeles.

Additionally, the Los Angeles Boys and Girls Club provides services to support the entire family unit through case management, weekly food distribution, positive community events, and emergency and crisis response services.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating this milestone for the Los Angeles Boys and Girls Club, and I look forward to seeing all that they do in the next 80 years and beyond.

HONORING HARRODSBURG,  
KENTUCKY

**HON. ANDY BARR**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 13, 2024*

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the citizens of Harrodsburg, Kentucky as they celebrate the 250th anniversary of their founding.

James Harrod and a team of men were sent by Lord Dunmore to Kentucky to survey land promised by the British crown to soldiers who served in the French and Indian War. Harrod was the first to map out a town on June 16, 1774, making Harrod's Town (later Harrodsburg) the first permanent British settlement west of the Alleghenies and the first city in Kentucky. By 1776, they had established a county court, a county militia, and named James Harrod as a delegate to the Virginia Assembly. A blockhouse was established at Fort Harrod for the protection of settlers. After the Revolutionary War ended, the town grew rapidly and the original log cabins were replaced with brick structures.

Many men from Harrodsburg fought in the war of 1812. After the war, agriculture and education were very important. Bacon College, Greenville Institute for Young Ladies, and the Harrodsburg Female Academy all opened between 1839 and 1847. Shaker Village at Pleasant Hill was founded in 1805 and became very prosperous. The local economy was based on livestock, hemp, wheat, corn, and valuable racehorses. By the middle of the 1800's, Harrodsburg had been home to three Kentucky governors and one U.S. Ambassador as well as a nationally known resort, Graham Springs.

Like many areas in border states, Harrodsburg was divided by the Civil War and experienced much loss and destruction. Citizens picked up and treated wounded soldiers from both Union and Confederate forces following the nearby Battle of Perryville. After the war, the city rebuilt and prospered once again. The 20th century brought the Dix River Dam, constructed in the 1920's to provide electricity,

and the reservoir, Lake Herrington, became a tourist attraction. A reproduction of Old Fort Harrod was constructed as well as a monument to George Rogers Clark which was dedicated by Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1934. Shaker Village was restored and became another tourist attraction. There has always been a strong military presence in Harrodsburg and World War II was no exception. Company D of the 192nd Tank Battalion was stationed in the Philippines in 1941 and included 66 from Harrodsburg. Forced to surrender to the Japanese, more than 7,000 American soldiers died from the brutal Bataan Death March, including 29 Harrodsburg men.

Today the city of Harrodsburg continues as a thriving community with robust agriculture, tourism, and industry. Dedicated leaders from founder James Harrod to today's Mayor Bob Williams have led the city of Harrodsburg. I am honored to lift up this great American community before the United States Congress and to congratulate them on their 250th anniversary.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. MARCUS J. MOLINARO**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 13, 2024*

Mr. MOLINARO. Mr. Speaker, I was absent because a meeting with constituents ran long. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 250.

SUPPORTING THE MEDAL OF  
HONOR FOR GUAM VETERANS

**HON. JAMES C. MOYLAN**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 13, 2024*

Mr. MOYLAN. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following letters in support of awarding the Medal of Honor to three Guam natives who served in the Vietnam War.

CALL TO ACTION: SUPPORT MEDAL OF HONOR  
FOR GUAM VETERANS

As veterans and residents of Guam, we have a unique opportunity to support three of our own who have displayed extraordinary valor in service to our nation. Delegate James Moylan has introduced amendments to the 2025 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) to authorize the President of the United States to award the Congressional Medal of Honor (MOH) to:

CSM Martin Manglona, U.S. Army Retired  
SGM Juan Ogo Blaz, U.S. Army Retired  
SPC4 Joseph Meno Perez, U.S. Army Retired (Medical)

These three veterans, all of whom served in the Vietnam War, have already been awarded the Distinguished Service Cross (DSC), the U.S. Army's second highest honor. However, they have never been given a fair chance at being considered for the MOH, despite their actions mirroring those of other soldiers who have received this prestigious award.

WHY THIS MATTERS

No other veteran from Guam or the Marianas has ever been awarded the MOH.

SPC4 Perez absorbed the explosion of a hand grenade to save his battalion, an act of valor that has earned the MOH for others.

SGM Blaz and CSM Manglona exemplified bravery that saved the lives of those within their battalion.

These veterans endured many indignities due to their ethnic backgrounds yet persevered to serve with distinction.

#### HOW YOU CAN HELP

We urge all veterans and residents of Guam to sign this statement in support of Delegate Moylan's amendments to authorize the MOH for these three heroes. By standing together, we can ensure that their bravery and sacrifice are properly recognized, and that this injustice is finally corrected.

Please sign below. Together, we can make a difference and honor the legacy of these brave sons of the Marianas.

ANTHONY TALJERON.  
CORINA BALLESTA.  
GLENN MANGLONA.

Hon. MIKE ROGERS,  
*Chairman, House Armed Services Committee,*  
*Transmitted via Delegate James C. Moylan.*

Háfa Adai Chairman ROGERS: We write in hopes that as an important member of the U.S. House of Representatives, with full voting privileges, you will support the effort from Guam Del. Jim Moylan to award the Congressional Medal of Honor to three of America's bravest soldiers, at long last. The valor displayed by CSM Martin Manglona (U.S. Army Ret.), SGM Juan Ogo Blaz (U.S. Army Ret.), and SPC4 Joseph Meno Perez (U.S. Army Ret.) saved the lives of their fellow soldiers and should be honored with the highest distinction available to America's men and women in the armed forces.

Utilizing the National Defense Authorization Act to accomplish these awards is justified when considering all three of these men displayed their acts of heroism during the Vietnam War, a conflict that started to involve ground troops from the United States nearly 60 years ago. This legislative avenue is also prudent when considering the undeniable valor shown by these men—documented as recipients of the Distinguished Service Cross.

SGM Blaz charged into enemy fire over and over again to save men from another platoon, all while knowing American forces were outmanned and outgunned at an enemy base camp.

CSM Manglona fought day and night in a jungle conflict, rescuing and resupplying troops despite being injured himself.

SPC4 Perez, who passed away in 2006, seized a grenade and used his own body to shield his fellow soldiers from the blast, miraculously surviving the explosion.

We also believe it is important to share that these three men were part of the first generation of CHamorru people who were granted American citizenship through the enactment of the Organic Act of 1950. They repaid this historic act of Congress with fearlessness, fidelity, and faith—traits that have become the hallmark of the generations of Pacific Island veterans who followed them. We sincerely pray that, given all of this perspective from fellow lawmakers and civil servants, you agree these three soldiers deserve to be the first generation of Mariana Islanders who are recognized with the highest honor the United States bestows to its defenders of democracy.

Si Yu'os ma'ase (With thanks),

TINA ROSE MUÑA, MA'ASE  
BARNES (D),  
*Vice Speaker, 37th*  
*Guam Legislature,*  
*Chairwoman, Com-*  
*mittee on Federal,*  
*Foreign & Regional*  
*Affairs.*

FRANK F. BLAS JR. (R),  
*Minority Leader, 37th*  
*Guam Legislature,*

*Vice Chair, Com-*  
*mittee on Federal,*  
*Foreign & Regional*  
*Affairs.*

JOE S. SAN, AGUSTIN (D),  
ROY A.B. QUINATA (D),  
WILLIAM A. PARKINSON (D),  
DWAYNE SAN NICOLAS (D),  
JESSE A. LUJÁN (R),  
CHRISTOPHER M. DUENAS  
(R),  
THOMAS J. FISHER (R),  
*Senators, 37th Guam*  
*Legislature.*

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. BOB GOOD

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 13, 2024*

Mr. GOOD of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 248, and NAY Roll Call No. 249.

### HONORING PRESIDENT GEORGE H.W. BUSH ON HIS 100TH BIRTH- DAY

SPEECH OF

### HON. J. FRENCH HILL

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 11, 2024*

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize multiple testaments to the character of President George H.W. Bush on what would have been his 100th birthday.

Texas A&M Today's article entitled, "Remembering the Character of George H.W. Bush" induces remarks from the 41st President's former Chief of Staff, Jean Becket, and the author of his biography, Jon Meacham. The article said:

"Anniversaries are about more than just the person being commemorated—they tell us about how we see ourselves at that moment, Pulitzer-Prize winning author and presidential historian Jon Meacham said Wednesday on what would have been President George H.W. Bush's 100th birthday.

"Speaking to a crowd gathered at the Annenberg Presidential Conference Center on the Texas A&M University campus, Meacham said there's not been a single moment in American history when the country has been more in need of what the 41st president represented than now. During Bush's remarks in 1990 commemorating the centennial of President Dwight D. Eisenhower, he quoted a motto etched onto a plaque that sat on Eisenhower's desk. 'Gently in manner, strong in deed.'

"It's hard to imagine a better description of Bush," Meacham said.

"Meacham spoke alongside Jean Becker, Bush's chief of staff for nearly 25 years, as part of a three-day centennial celebration hosted by the George & Barbara Bush Foundation. In addition to sharing some of their favorite memories about the president, the importance of character and the qualities that defined Bush were the focus of much of their discussion.

"Bush, known for his humility, likely 'would not approve' of the amount of attention being paid to him this week, Becker said. The former president's reluctance toward discussing himself and his legacy was

exemplified by an anecdote Becker shared about a visit Bush made to his presidential library and museum in College Station before it opened in 1997.

"Bush was invited to walk through the library one last time to point out any changes he wanted made before the opening. 'In the car on the drive back to Houston, he turned to me and said, 'Jean, I have a big problem with the museum,' she said. And he said, 'Jean, it's too much about me.'

"Meacham said Bush had a similar reaction after he read the former president a draft of his eulogy.

"The eyes were very attentive. He was listening to every possible bit, let's be clear,' Meacham said I got to the end, and he said, 'That's great—awful lot about me.'"

"Meacham, who wrote the 2015 biography "Destiny and Power: The American Odyssey of George Herbert Walker Bush," eulogized Bush at his funeral following his death in November 2018.

"Meacham said Bush's humility wasn't an affectation. But he also acknowledged the complications of a man who wanted to serve in a subtle and decent way, but 'also wanted to bend the arc of history in the direction he thought it should go.'

"If we overly canonize him, he loses the capacity to teach," Meacham said, adding that it's important to acknowledge that Bush was fallible.

"Bush represented a man who was driven by ambition, but who ultimately put service above self," Meacham said. He also warned against 'overly romanticizing a past in a way that prevents us from rising to the occasion.' When putting together his new book, 'The Call To Serve,' Meacham said he was thinking about what Bush's legacy means at this time.

"The easy answer is the climate,' he said 'Here's this decent, gentlemanly figure who represented a long-ago order. All true. But it was 20 minutes ago—it's not impossible to recover if we summon the same reserves of character. Because character, as the Greeks taught us, is destiny.'

"Becker, who is also promoting a new book, 'Character Matters,' said she's often pessimistically asked, 'Where's the next George Bush?' This outlook is a mistake, she said.

"The people who think there are no more George Bushes, yeah, there are,' Becker said 'You just have to vote for them. You all control this. Quit voting for people who don't have character. . . . The people are out here, and they're willing to serve. We just have to follow his example of 'do what's right for the country.' Not what's right for you, not what's right for the party, but what's right for the country.'

"Becker and Meacham's panel was attended by hundreds of members of the public, as well as members of the Bush family and alumni of his administration. Becker said the former president would have loved that the centennial celebration served as a reunion.

"He loved all these people. The party part of it he would love, and seeing everybody, but he definitely would complain to me and Jon, 'Quit talking about me, talk about other people,' Becker said.

"While Becker said Bush hated discussing 'the L word'—his legacy—the Bush School of Government and Public Service at Texas A&M 'is his legacy, and it was really important to him.'

"He would be so proud of the Bush School graduates, because they're doing exactly what he wanted them to do,' she said 'They're everywhere—the State Department, particularly, the CIA, city managers. They're doing everything, and he would be very proud.'

"When it came time to choose a location for his presidential library after Bush left the White House, there was interest from several schools, including the University of Houston and his alma mater, Yale University, Becker said. But even though Bush did not attend Texas A&M, the university "had his heart," she said.

"He loved service. That was his life motto, and he fell in love with A&M the first time he came and gave a speech here," Becker said. "It was sort of a slam dunk that it would be here, and he loved it up here."

"The "41@100" celebrations continue Thursday with the grand opening of the Marine One/4141 Locomotive Pavilion. The new 29,000-square-foot building at the George H.W. Bush Presidential Library & Museum features the retired Marine One helicopter used frequently by Bush during his time in office, as well as the Union Pacific 4141 locomotive that led Bush's funeral train from Houston to his final resting place on the library grounds. The building will be open 8 a.m. to 8 p.m."

The Today Show's article entitled, "Jenna Bush Hager shares letter to her late 'Gampy' George H.W. Bush on his 100th birthday" shared remarks that the former President's granddaughter had to say about her grandfather. The article said:

"He was gentle," Jenna said. "He led with kindness. He wanted to be the type of leader that listened."

"Jenna Bush Hager is remembering her late grandfather, the United States' 41st president, George H.W. Bush, on what would have been his 100th birthday.

"On June 12, Jenna paid tribute to her late 'Gampy' by reading to viewers a letter she wrote to him about his impact on her life.

Dear Gampy,

We miss you. We miss your letters and emails. We miss racing through the waves of the Atlantic on your boat fishing . . . laughing and debating around the dinner table.

We miss your rules: Don't be afraid to shed a tear when your heart is broken or because a friend is hurting. Nobody likes an overbearing big shot. As you succeed, be kind to people. Thank those who help you along the way.

We miss your quiet compassion, like when you shaved your head for the son of your secret service agent who had leukemia.

We miss your belief that our country is greater when we work together, and your lifelong dedication to our country as one of the youngest navy pilots in World War II.

On this day, many of your grandkids—inspired by you—will jump out of a plane. Your milestone birthday tradition that you so proudly did in honor of the nation's military.

Gampy, you have been gone for eight years, but we feel you still as we look into the sky and see a thousand points of light . . . in simple acts of love . . . in the smiles of your great grandchildren.

"Jenna's tribute had TODAY co-anchor Hoda Kotb in tears.

"The life lessons he taught that you summed up in that short piece were incredible," Hoda said "And what struck me so, was the kindness. It's like, we're better when we're kinder."

"He was gentle," Jenna said "He led with kindness. He wanted to be the type of leader that listened."

"George H.W. Bush passed away at the age of 94 in 2018, less than 8 months after the death of his wife of 73 years, Barbara Bush.

"Jenna and her twin sister, Barbara, were both greatly influenced by their Gampy. Barbara chose to marry right after getting engaged to Craig Coyne in 2018, so that her ailing grandfather could attend.

"George H.W. Bush, like Jenna, loved putting his feelings down on paper.

"He wrote us the most beautiful letters when he was in his 70s, 80s, about being together, about how all he wanted was to come home and that that was what brought him the most joy, was to be surrounded by his grandkids and his family," Jenna shared on TODAY on June 5.

George H.W. Bush and Barbara shared six children: Former President George W. Bush, 77, Jeb Bush, 71, Neil Bush, 69, Marvin Bush, 67, Dorothy Bush Koch, 64, and Pauline "Robin" Bush, who died at the age of 3 from leukemia."

The Wall Street Journal's article entitled "The George Bush Century" by James A. Baker III, the former President's Secretary of State, said:

"At a time of political dysfunction, the 100th anniversary of President George H.W. Bush's birth provides an opportunity to examine his leadership traits, which could help America regain its national footing. Those qualities—which made him the best one-term president in U.S. history and one of the best ever—include these:

"Selflessness. Born into a family with a tradition of public service, Bush put his nation above himself. He did so as the 20-year-old son of an influential East Coast banker who risked his life as a Navy pilot and was shot down over the Pacific during World War II. As president he was domestically rebuked for refusing to thump his chest after the Berlin Wall fell. He reasoned that triumphalism might hinder tense relations with the faltering but still dangerous Soviet Union.

"Trustworthiness. What started as a wary relationship with Mikhail Gorbachev, the Soviet Union's last leader, developed into a strong, personal bond that Gorbachev credited with improving relations between the countries. The two worked together to reunite Germany, eject Iraq's troops from Kuwait and negotiate two nuclear arms-reduction treaties.

"Pragmatism. Bush recognized that savvy responses were often more effective than bold ones. Conservative in nature, he preferred stability and calm. His decision against marching to Baghdad in 1991 was driven by a pragmatic assessment of potential risks of occupation. The decision, much criticized at the time, proved wise.

"Respect for experience. Bush often advised aspiring young politicians to avoid being like a Dalmatian in a fire house, running every time the bell rings. Instead, he told them to get a job, start a family and do other things that would allow them to build a full life. By the time he became president, Bush had worked in the Texas oil patch, raised five children to adulthood, and served as a congressman, ambassador to the United Nations, top diplomat in China, director of the Central Intelligence Agency and vice president. No one knew the world as thoroughly and clearly.

"Leadership by example. Always a workhorse rather than a show horse, Bush let his actions speak for him. The "kinder, gentler nation" he envisioned wasn't merely a political bromide. He and Barbara Bush dedicated personal time to support and promote education and service-oriented programs. The Bushes didn't show class. They were class.

"Bipartisanship. He didn't mind butting heads with Democrats, or with fellow Republicans for that matter. But he refused to demonize opponents, and he always looked across the aisle for bipartisan solutions, such as the Clean Air Act and Americans with Disabilities Act.

"The political climate was far more temperate when Bush was in the White House than it is today. Debates could be rancorous,

but they reached nothing like today's feverish and destructive pitch. As I watch the calamity that American politics has become, I yearn for the brand of wise, courageous and humble leadership that George H.W. Bush embodied. His virtues remind us of what we have lost—and can regain if we follow his example."

Joe Strauss, former Speaker of the Texas House, had this to say about the former President in the San Antonio Express-News article "Celebrating President George H.W. Bush, who governed with principle."

"This week marks what would have been the 100th birthday of President George H.W. Bush. It is a time to celebrate a man who distinguished himself by what he accomplished and how he led.

"Bush's presidency from 1989 to 1993 was highly consequential: The United States won the Cold War, helped broker the peaceful reunification of Germany and liberated Kuwait from Saddam Hussein. Bush signed the landmark American with Disabilities Act and the Clean Air Act. Strength and diplomacy abroad, combined with kindness and compassion at home, defined his time in the White House" . . .

"Sununu writes, "President Bush's decades of integrity and credibility allowed him to move these powerful leaders in unison toward a common goal. They trusted his tactics and strategy, and most importantly they trusted that he would ensure that they shared the credit for the success of this world-changing effort" . . .

"Bush, however, did not waver. He said of one critic, 'He couldn't have been uglier and meaner. But that just made me more determined to do what was right.'

"As president, he agreed to a deficit-reduction deal with congressional Democrats that reduced spending while also making modest increases in tax rates. Because he had famously promised not to raise taxes, Bush knew this decision could cost him reelection, and in large part, it did. But the deal also reversed growing deficits and paved the way for a balanced federal budget in the years after he left office.

"Throughout his life, Bush demonstrated the moral fiber that we should expect, if not demand, from great leaders. Even many Americans who disagreed with his policies understood that he put his service to others above any personal gain or glorification—a style that is growing less and less familiar in an age when we seem to measure elected officials by their visibility in the media rather than their effectiveness in office."

HONORING DR. JOHN REILLY, JR.  
ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. JASON CROW

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2024

Mr. CROW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of John Reilly, Jr., MD, and congratulate him on his upcoming retirement. For nearly a decade, Dr. Reilly served as the Dean of the University of Colorado School of Medicine and Vice Chancellor for health affairs at CU Anschutz, where he led the charge in establishing Aurora and Colorado as national leaders in health care and biomedical research.

During his tenure, he elevated CU Anschutz to the top tier of academic medical centers in the Nation, expanded programs to serve more people across our state, and recruited leaders who will extend this legacy for decades to

come. During Dean Reilly's tenure, medical school curriculum and clinical training settings were updated to better prepare medical students for productive and fulfilling careers, medical research for the school of medicine grew by 67 percent, and CU Medicine faculty cared for more Coloradans than any other medical group—serving 727,000 people through 4.2 million patient visits in 2023.

Dr. Reilly's commitment to community service is exemplified by his efforts to strengthen partnerships for those residing in Colorado. Under his guidance, CU Anschutz established the Aurora Wellness Community, a transformative initiative aimed at enhancing access to primary care for underserved populations in north Aurora. The Aurora Wellness Community Center will offer comprehensive health and wellness programming, including childcare and a food bank to address the diverse needs of north Aurora. Further, under the leadership of Dr. Reilly, the CU School of Medicine collaborated with Traverse Academy, a school within the Cherry Creek School District, which led to the establishment of the Nation's first mental health treatment facility operated by a school district.

Dean Reilly's contributions to improving health care access, quality, and research will be felt in Colorado and across the country for decades to come. I want to congratulate Dean Reilly again on his upcoming retirement and thank him for his service to our community, Colorado, and our Nation.

CELEBRATING CHICAGO CUBS  
LEGEND, RYNE SANDBERG

**HON. MIKE QUIGLEY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 13, 2024*

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ryne Sandberg and join the Chicago Cubs in celebrating the dedication of his new statue outside of historic Wrigley Field.

A Hall of Fame second baseman, Mr. Sandberg played 15 seasons with the Chicago Cubs, starting in 1982. By the time Mr. Sandberg retired in 1997, he held the record for most Gold Glove Awards by a second baseman, the most consecutive errorless games by a second baseman and the most home runs by a second baseman. In 2005, Mr. Sandberg was elected to the National Baseball Hall of Fame and had his number, 23, retired by the Cubs.

Mr. Sandberg is a living legend and as a Cubs fan I could not be happier that he is receiving a statue here in Illinois' 5th District. Mr. Speaker, please join me and all our colleagues in the House of Representatives in recognizing Mr. Sandberg's legacy and congratulating him on the unveiling of his statue.

RECOGNIZING WORLD OCEAN DAY

**HON. JENNIFER A. KIGGANS**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 13, 2024*

Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize World Ocean Day, celebrated annually on June 8th. This day of-

fers a valuable opportunity to celebrate our oceans, which are not only a source of immense beauty and wonder but also a vital component of our U.S. economy. As we commemorate this day, I want to emphasize the significance of fishing communities and the necessity of maintaining abundant ocean resources. They are integral to the economic health and sustainability of fishing communities and our Nation.

The fishing and seafood industries plays a significant role in our economy at home in Virginia. In 2022, the Commonwealth of Virginia had 28,729 jobs in the U.S. Seafood Industry, according to the Fisheries Economics of the United States 2022 Report by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. These jobs resulted in \$851,594 in income for Virginians and \$3,519,973 in sales, inserting millions of dollars back into our communities.

Fishing communities look different across the United States, but they all depend on healthy ocean ecosystems for their livelihoods. These communities form the backbone of coastal economies, and thriving fisheries help them provide jobs, protect food security, and secure cultural heritage and recreational opportunities for all Americans. The economic impact of the fishing industry is substantial, contributing billions of dollars to the national economy and supporting countless families and businesses.

However, fishing communities face unprecedented challenges on many fronts. Pollution and other environmental challenges threaten the health of marine ecosystems and the sustainability of fish stocks, which in turn directly impacts fishing communities and jeopardizes their way of life and economic stability. At the same time, coastal development and the loss of working waterfronts are also making it more difficult for fishing communities to survive.

To secure the future of our fishing communities and the economic vitality of our oceans, we must prioritize fishing communities and the sustainable fisheries that support them. This includes:

**Sustainable Fishing Practices:** Implementing management efforts that prevent overfishing and promote the rebuilding of fish populations.

**Habitat Protection:** Safeguarding critical marine habitats, such as coral reefs, mangroves, and seagrass beds, which support a diverse range of marine life, including fish.

**Pollution Reduction:** Addressing sources of ocean pollution, including plastic waste and chemical runoff, to protect marine ecosystems and the species that inhabit them.

**Adaptability to change:** Enhancing the resilience of fisheries and coastal communities through adaptive management strategies.

**Resilient fishing communities:** Preserving working waterfronts and improving the ability for fisheries to avoid and recover from disasters.

In recognition of this year's World Ocean Day, let us reaffirm our commitment to safeguarding our oceans and the communities that depend on them. By working together to conserve marine ecosystems and achieve sustainable fisheries, we can secure a brighter future for our fishing communities and for generations to come.

CONGRATULATING MARIE HANSEN AS A FINALIST FOR THE 2024 EDUCATION MINNESOTA TEACHER OF THE YEAR

**HON. ANGIE CRAIG**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 13, 2024*

Ms. CRAIG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank and congratulate Marie Hansen on being a finalist for Education Minnesota's 2024 Teacher of the Year.

Marie has taught at Burnsville High School for sixteen years, taking after her father who was a teacher and coach for 35 years. As a teacher of 11th grade AVID, 11th grade English, dual-enrollment courses with a local community college and 10th grade English, she is an inspiration to her community and the students she works with.

Ms. Hansen believes that her students are preparing to take the world by storm, and lead with humor, warmth and curiosity as they grow into our nation's next generation of leaders. This recognition by her peers and officials at Education Minnesota is supported by the immense appreciation for her contribution to public service in my district.

I am honored to recognize Marie Hansen today as a model for meaningful educators, and I thank her for the work she is doing to create community in her classrooms.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 13, 2024*

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, on Roll Call No. 258, I mistakenly voted NO when I intended to vote YES. It is a general principle of mine to vote NO if I do not know the full extent of the amendment. I did not have the complete information on the amendment while on the floor at the time of the vote. Since then, I have gathered more information and based on that information I would have voted in support of the amendment.

RECOGNIZING MERIDIAN HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

**HON. MICHAEL GUEST**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 13, 2024*

Mr. GUEST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Meridian High School basketball team and Coach Ron Norman on the exceptional achievement of winning the 2024 MHSAA 7A Basketball State Championship. This championship is a result of the team's incredible work ethic and determination throughout this season.

The 2024 MHSAA 7A championship is the team's first championship since 2017 and is a testament to what can be accomplished when a group of individuals come together as a team. During this season, these young men were put to the test against tenacious opponents, and they did not waver. In the end,

their spectacular efforts culminated in a prized championship victory.

I would also like to offer my congratulations to Coach Ron Norman for winning his second state title during his tenure at Meridian High School, as well as to his staff for such a successful season. These coaches have been excellent leaders for these young athletes throughout the season and have set them up for great future successes. The young men on this team are great examples to their classmates and community of what can be achieved through working together towards a common goal. We look forward to seeing what all of these exceptional young men achieve in the future.

Again, I would like to extend my congratulations to the Meridian High School basketball team for their state championship victory.

COMMEMORATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF CRATERS OF THE MOON

**HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON**

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 13, 2024*

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my esteemed colleagues, Senator MIKE CRAPO, and Senator JAMES E. RISCH, to commemorate a truly remarkable milestone in our Nation's history—the 100th anniversary of Craters of the Moon National Monument and Preserve. Situated in the vast expanse of Idaho, Craters of the Moon stands as a testament to the unique geological wonders of our planet and the importance of preserving our natural heritage for future generations.

On May 2, 1924, President Calvin Coolidge signed the proclamation establishing Craters of the Moon as a national monument. Craters of the Moon has a rich history, both geologically and culturally, spanning much further beyond its time as federally managed and protected land. Craters of the Moon offers countless opportunities for hiking, camping, cross-country skiing, wildlife viewing, and backcountry travel. Exposed fissures, lava fields, lava tubes, craters, and cinder cones form a strangely beautiful volcanic sea on central Idaho's Snake River Plain.

The significance of Craters of the Moon extends far beyond its stunning natural beauty. Its central feature is the Great Rift, a 52-mile-long crack in the Earth's crust. It serves as a living laboratory for scientific research, offering invaluable insights into the processes of volcanic activity and ecosystem development. Its rugged terrain also provides a habitat for a diverse array of plant and animal species, many of which are found nowhere else on Earth.

Additionally, Craters of the Moon holds profound cultural and historical significance for the people of Idaho and the broader United States. For centuries, Native American tribes have revered this land as sacred, and its exploration by early pioneers and scientists has helped shape our understanding of the natural world.

Idaho's abundance of parks, forests, and public lands makes our state a wonderful place to live, work, and play. As we celebrate the centennial of Craters of the Moon National Monument and Preserve, let us reaffirm our commitment to preserving and protecting this

extraordinary place for future generations. Let us honor the stewardship of those who have worked tirelessly to safeguard its natural and cultural treasures and let us inspire a new generation of Americans to explore, appreciate, and conserve our Nation's unparalleled natural heritage.

In recognition of this historic milestone, and Craters Centennial Celebration, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the 100th anniversary of Craters of the Moon National Monument and Preserve and in reaffirming our commitment to preserving our Nation's natural wonders for the benefit of all.

THANKING COLONEL ARIEL  
BATUNGBACAL FOR HER SERV-  
ICE TO OUR NATION

**HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 13, 2024*

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing the National Air and Space Intelligence Center (NASIC) Commander, Colonel Ariel Batungbacal, farewell and thank you as she departs command, after serving at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base for the past four years—first as a NASIC Group Commander and then as the NASIC Wing Commander.

Colonel Batungbacal commissioned in 2001, quickly rising through the ranks to Colonel and, most recently, confirmed to the rank of Brigadier General. In other words, through 23 years of dedicated service to her Nation, Colonel Batungbacal has earned a spot in the top two percent of all eligible members who achieve the General Officer rank. An outstanding achievement.

Colonel Batungbacal distinguished herself through her dedicated service to the Department of Defense and her visionary leadership of NASIC, the U.S. Air Force's Service Intelligence Center. During her command, Colonel Batungbacal led the Center through an unprecedented organizational change, adopting an A-staff structure and realigning squadrons to better support mission execution for the high-end fight.

Colonel Batungbacal elevated NASIC's analytic ecosystem by accelerating a multi-year digital transformation effort, prioritizing systems and processes that serve to increase information sharing and remove barriers to collaboration. By weaving these transformation efforts into the Center's near and long-term strategies, she provided the organization with an integrated, measurable path to success. The entire Center has leveraged this effort to accelerate 20 analytic modernization projects, with 245 efforts pending future Center action.

Under her leadership, NASIC led a joint DoD and FBI project concerning a high visibility national effort, enabling critical analysis and dissemination to policy makers. While in command, she also hosted two U.S. House of Representatives Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence retreats, effectively showcasing NASIC's efforts aligned to the National Defense Strategy. This unprecedented, bipartisan committee retreat was also attended by 10 senior leaders of the intelligence community. I brought two Speakers of the House to witness the NASIC magic themselves and experience

first-hand the tremendous impact these "MacGyvers" of the Air Force have on our national defense posture.

During her tenure as the NASIC Wing Commander, Colonel Batungbacal oversaw the completion of a \$155 million military construction project—one of the largest in Wright-Patterson's history. Most impressive, this project finished ahead of schedule and under budget. The world-class, purpose-built addition increased NASIC's footprint by 255,000 sq. feet, providing an additional 980 seats and cutting-edge lab space to the U.S. Air Force's largest Sensitive Compartmented Information Facility.

With an intentional focus on workforce development, Colonel Batungbacal repurposed an existing facility to provide internal training opportunities to grow and enhance the careers of her nearly 3,800-member force. Since the building's reopening in 2023, NASIC has hosted nearly 150 classes, training an excess of approximately 1920 individuals. Instructors are often in-house NASIC employees and specialists in their field, offering unique learning opportunities to enhance their colleagues' skillsets.

In addition to her impressive accomplishments as Commander, Colonel Batungbacal's creativity and innovation has shaped the way NASIC is perceived across the Intelligence Community, the Department of Defense, and the state of Ohio. Colonel Batungbacal has left a lasting impression with her creative vision, unifying the mission across the Center and pioneering a recognizable NASIC brand. She will be missed, but I appreciate the lasting efforts she made upon NASIC, Wright-Patterson, and the Dayton community. We wish her the best of luck in her next endeavors at A2/6.

APPRECIATING MAJOR WILLIAM  
HENRY LUTHER

**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 13, 2024*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today I am grateful to honor the remarkable life of Major William Henry Luther, a highly decorated hero of the Vietnam War, who will be laid to rest at the Dallas-Fort Worth Veterans National Cemetery in Dallas, Texas on June 20th. Major Luther, the brother of Second District resident and Publisher of Linc, Inc. community newspapers, Kirk Luther, also leaves behind wife Jackie Mae, daughter Tracey, son Robert, five grandchildren, one great grandchild, and numerous extended family members and friends. I offer my sympathy to his family.

I include in the RECORD the following obituary for William Henry Luther:

William Henry Luther, a veteran of the war in Vietnam and longtime resident of Edgecliff Village, Texas, passed away on December 10, 2023 in his home. Bill, as he was known to most, was born November 7, 1939 to Kirk Charles Luther and Elizabeth (Betty) Jane Luther in Berwyn, Illinois. He enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1956. Bill was first deployed to Korea where he served with a medical unit and was there when President John F. Kennedy was assassinated.

After Korea, Bill was deployed to Vietnam for three combat tours during the 60s. For

his heroic actions as a helicopter pilot fighting in some of the bloodiest battles with the 1st Air Cavalry Division including the TET Offensive and the City of Hue, Khe Sahn, and the invasion of the A'Shau Valley, the U.S. Army recognized Bill for his honorable service with a Silver Star (one of the highest honors to be bestowed upon a combat veteran) the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Bronze Star (1st OLC), the Purple Heart, the Air Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal w/DVC 60, Vietnam Cross of Gallantry w/PALM, Senior Army Aviation Badge, Army Aviator Badge, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Vietnam Civil Actions Medal (Unit Citation), Valorous Unit Citation and the Meritorious Service Medal. Bill was the true definition of a warrior and retired from military service with the rank of Major after 22 years, 5 months and 5 days from Fort Jackson, South Carolina.

Bill married Jackie Mae Riddle on July 22, 1967 at Fort Rucker, Alabama, and together they raised two children, Robert and Tracey.

After his retirement from military service Bill joined Defender Industries in Columbia, SC and was promoted to the Senior Operations Officer of the southwestern territory which included Oklahoma, Texas and New Mexico. During that time he moved his family to Ft. Worth and eventually Edgecliff Village where he resided until his passing. Bill was an avid golfer and served two terms as an Alderman on the Edgecliff Village City Council.

Bill is survived by his wife Jackie Mae Luther of Fort Worth, TX.; his daughter, Tracey Scancellia and husband, Jimmy Aguirre; his son, Robert S. Luther and wife, Debra M. Luther, as well as five grandchildren, Jonathan Scancellia, Joseph Scancellia, Bradley W. Luther, Kristina K. Luther, Kelli M. Luther and one great grandchild, Theodore W. Luther; his brother, Kirk F. Luther and wife Kathy A. Luther along with 2 nephews, Aaron K. Luther and Nicholas C. Luther and two great nephews, Jonah Luther and Elijah Luther.

William will be laid to rest with full military honors at Dallas Ft. Worth Veterans National Cemetery on June 20, 2024 at 11:00 am. Remembrances can be made by visiting Wounded Warrior Project at support.woundedwarriorproject.org.

### CELEBRATING ROCKY'S PASTIES 100TH ANNIVERSARY

#### HON. THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 13, 2024*

Mr. KEAN of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate and congratulate Rocky's Pasties on their 100-year anniversary. I am extremely grateful to be able to celebrate this incredible milestone with the Rocky's Pasties family and our community. A small takeout food business specializing in hand made Cornish style pastries, Rocky's has been family owned and operated for four generations. For the past 100 years, they have shown their dedication to delivering meals the old-fashioned way while carrying a piece of their ancestors with them. They have shown their commitment to this community by preparing daily meals from scratch, using only the freshest ingredients. The Rocky's Pasties friendly environment is a testament to their 100-year history. Rocky's Pasties has been described as an "unexpected gem" but if you are a part

of this community you know it is no surprise. As we reflect on the past 100 years at Rocky's they have exceeded the expectations and I know they will continue to do so for the next 100 years to come. I am honored to have such an amazing community in the 7th congressional district, and I look forward to what is to come.

### HONORING THE LIFE OF O. LOUIS SOTO

#### HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 13, 2024*

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, on May 8, 2024 we lost my father, Lou Soto. He was an amazing dad, loving husband, and joyful grandfather. He was a Navy veteran, computer programmer, as well as a football, baseball and basketball fan. He had a calm, loving, and amiable demeanor, one that inspired peace in others. He had many friends, loved to dance, grill, host BBQs and listen to music.

His story embodied the American Dream. Born in Manati, Puerto Rico, he traveled to the mainland at nine years old. He then served in the Navy as a young man during the Vietnam era. He and my mother, Jean, bought their first home thanks to a VA Loan and attended college thanks to the GI Bill, where he took night classes to finish his degree while working in the day and raising his young family. He worked in computers and information technology for many years. He now leaves behind his wife Jean, son Lou, grandchildren LJ, Mateo, and Sabrina, and myself as well as many other family members. The imprint he has left on our lives, we will carry with us forever.

He was a Catholic and man of faith. Our family will miss him dearly, knowing he now joins the angels, and is finally at peace.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. WILLIAM R. TIMMONS, IV

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 13, 2024*

Mr. TIMMONS. Mr. Speaker, I was on the floor but was distracted and missed the vote. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 254.

### RECOGNIZING MY CONSTITUENT ADVOCATE, DAVID CHERNACK, FOR HIS EXCELLENT WORK ON BEHALF OF MINNESOTA'S

#### HON. DEAN PHILLIPS

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 13, 2024*

Mr. PHILLIPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my Constituent Advocate, David Chernack, for his work on behalf of every constituent in Minnesota's Third Congressional District. At the end of April, David departed my office for a new opportunity to serve as the Immigration Constituent Advocate in the Office

of Rep. Angie Craig, and I could not be more proud or grateful for his service.

Hailing from California, David came to Minnesota for college at the University of Minnesota. While in college, David got hooked on Minnesota politics and spent time interning for Senator AMY KLOBUCHAR and Governor Tim Walz before graduating and joining our office.

The constituents of Minnesota's Third District were fortunate to be served by David who always went the extra mile to help a constituent in need. David's ability to treat each individual as if they were his top priority has impressed our entire office. In under a year, he held two job titles- Staff Assistant and Hospitality Director and most recently, Constituent Advocate- and brought intellectual rigor, tireless dedication, and trademark quirkiness to each role. Our fondest memories include his drives to random parking lots to shepherd lost constituents to our office, lunches consisting of three variations of simple carbs with no protein or produce in sight, and expressions of undying gratitude when given even the smallest treat.

The people of Minnesota's Third Congressional District were lucky to have his dedication and leadership, and he will be dearly missed. However, I'm extraordinarily happy that he will continue to do this work and serve the Nation and the people of Minnesota's Second Congressional District. I wish David all the best in his future endeavors and thank him for a year of faithful service to this Nation—and many more to come.

### HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF DR. GEORGE EVERETT BARNES

#### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 13, 2024*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of a tenacious and self-motivated leader, the late Dr. George Everett Barnes. Dr. Barnes showed what could be done through hard work, dedication, and a desire to achieve success.

Dr. George Everett Barnes was born in Collins, MS, on August 10, 1941. He was the youngest of nine siblings born to Elmer and Lora Barnes. During the course of his life, his parents stressed the importance of God, family, education, and hard work. He would find his calling as a devoted husband, father, educator, and servant. These values are evidenced by the fact that all nine siblings attended and graduated from Jackson State University. They went on to establish the Barnes Family Endowed Scholarship Fund to aid students majoring in education.

Dr. Barnes graduated from Carver Central High School in Collins and went on to advance his education at Jackson State University (BS, Mathematics), Louisiana State University (MA, Mathematics), Mississippi State University (EdS, Community College Education), and the University of Southern Mississippi (PhD, Educational Administration). He furthered his studies at the University of Illinois and Auburn University.

While attending Jackson State University, he met his wife, Doris. They married in June 1963 and celebrated their 61st anniversary

this year. To this union, three children were born: Cheryl Barnes, Gregory Barnes, and Kimberly McCants.

Dr. Barnes began his career as a mathematics teacher at Hinds Agricultural High School in 1962. This would begin his 51-year professional and family life in Utica. During his tenure, Dr. Barnes served as an assistant basketball coach, college math instructor, Hinds AHS Principal, and Academic Dean and Acting President of Utica Junior College. When he retired, he was the Vice President for the Utica and Vicksburg-Warren Campuses and Administrative and Student Services.

Dr. Barnes loved meeting people, talking to people, and helping them as well. He valued knowing that he made a difference in the lives of others and served as a positive role model for his family, friends, and colleagues. His interests in building humanity, specifically, were time consuming yet fulfilling. He worked tirelessly to build the cultural character in the surrounding communities. He leaves a legacy of dedicated and committed leadership, and his work never went unnoticed.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life, legacy, and service of Dr. George Everett Barnes for his passion and unwavering dedication in the field of education. May his legacy continue in our hearts and in our interactions with friends and family.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. PRAMILA JAYAPAL

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 13, 2024*

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Speaker, I missed Roll Call No. 253 on June 12, 2024. Had I been present, my vote would have been Nay.

#### HONORING PASO-WEST SUBURBAN ACTION PROJECT'S 15TH ANNIVERSARY

### HON. JESÚS G. "CHUY" GARCÍA

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 13, 2024*

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 15th Anniversary of P.A.S.O.—West Suburban Action Project (Proyecto de Acción de los Suburbios del Oeste), a community-based social justice organization in Melrose Park whose mission is to build stronger communities where residents can live dignified lives regardless of race, ethnicity, socioeconomic or immigration status.

Since its founding in 2009, P.A.S.O. has become one of the leading immigrant rights organizations through grassroots organizing and coalition building working in collaboration with partners to create systemic, social change that leads to more equitable and just communities for people of all backgrounds.

Over the past fifteen years, P.A.S.O. has been a pillar of our community and a beacon of hope for so many. From supporting immigrants and refugees training them to defend their rights, to providing health education to seniors and parents, to championing workers rights, and providing free educational opportunities in Spanish, P.A.S.O. supports communities in the quest for change.

I am honored to commemorate P.A.S.O. on their 15th Anniversary.

Congratulations (Felicidades!).

#### HONORING STAFF SERGEANT HARRY MARKS, III

### HON. DONALD NORCROSS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 13, 2024*

Mr. NORCROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and commend Staff Sergeant Harry Marks, III, Hometown Hero.

Born in Greenfield, Indiana, Staff Sergeant Harry Marks, III has been an invaluable and dedicated member of the Borough of Bellmawr since November 1984 alongside his wife, Barbara.

Staff Sergeant Marks enlisted in the United States Army at the age of 17 years old where he began basic training at Ft. Knox, Kentucky until he reached 18 years old. He was then relocated to Fort Dix, New Jersey where he received AIT training as a Gas and Diesel Mechanic before leaving for Indian Town Gap in Pennsylvania, where he awaited orders for Vietnam. In 1971, he was stationed outside of Inchon, Korea where he served for 13 months at the Nike Herc Missile Site Staff Sergeant Marks returned to the United States as a part of the Mobile Calvary Unit also recognized as the "Armored Calvary". Prior to his deployment to Kaiserslautern, Germany, he was stationed at Fort Steward, Georgia. In 1974, Staff Sergeant Harry Marks was deployed with the 43rd maintenance battalion and while in Germany, he was promoted and transferred to the 34th Signal Battalion B Company where he remained until 1981.

Following his active-duty service, Staff Sergeant Harry Marks became a life-member of the VFW Crescent Park Post 9563 in Bellmawr, New Jersey and served as Commander from 2018 to 2021, Staff Sergeant Harry Marks has served as the elected Junior and Senior Vice commander of VFW District 7 and presently serves as Commander of both District 7 and Crescent Park Post 9563.

Staff Sergeant Harry Marks is a two-time recipient of the Good Conduct Medal and expert Badge for M16, a recipient of the National Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Army Service Ribbon, and Overseas Service Ribbon

Today, he continues to support the local Vineland Veteran Hospital, local fundraisers, and is an active participant in VFW Memorial Day, 4th of July events, and the VFW State convention.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in honoring and commending Staff Sergeant Harry Marks, III of the Borough of Bellmawr New Jersey, a dedicated resident who has honorably served both his community and country.

#### RECOGNIZING LIEUTENANT GENERAL JOHN P. SULLIVAN, 37 YEARS OF ACTIVE DUTY IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY

### HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 13, 2024*

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor and distinct pleasure to offer a few words in recognition of the impending retirement of Lieutenant General John P. Sullivan, a fellow graduate of Fordham University, after 37 years of faithful and dedicated service to our Nation. Lieutenant General Sullivan, most recently the 17th Deputy Commander of the United States Transportation Command, will officially retire from active duty in the United States Army on 1 September 2024.

A native son of Massachusetts, and a decorated combat veteran who served and led our Nation's finest in combat during Operations Desert Shield, Desert Storm, Joint Forge, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom, General Sullivan epitomizes the consummate soldier, servant leader, and advocate for our servicemembers and their families. Over the course of his exceptional career, he has successfully led at the tactical, operational, and strategic level to defend this Nation, decisively win our battles, and advance our most critical national objectives. Whether at the head of the 548th Corps Support Battalion and the 595th Transportation Brigade, as the 27th Chief of Transportation and Commandant of the U.S. Army Transportation School, as the Commander of the 19th Expeditionary Sustainment Command stationed in the Republic of Korea, as the Commander of the 1st Theater Sustainment Command stationed in the United States Central Command theater, or as the Deputy Commander of U.S. Transportation Command, General Sullivan unquestionably exemplified the best the Army has to offer in its officer corps.

While at U.S. Transportation Command, General Sullivan personally endeavored to inform this Congress of the readiness of strategic mobility forces critical to deploying, maneuvering, sustaining, and redeploying the most capable military in our Nation's history. More importantly, he ensured that the Joint Staff, Department of Defense, and this Congress were aligned in understanding the criticality of recapitalizing our aging strategic sea-lift fleets, aerial refueling assets, and strategic airlift fleets to sustain our competitive advantage over potential near-peer adversaries in global power projection. In close partnership with the National Defense Transportation Association, General Sullivan worked diligently to enhance our national emergency preparedness programs so that the Defense Transportation System remained ready and responsive to emergent national security needs. We all witnessed the power of these essential relationships and capabilities in 2021, when U.S. Transportation Command helped execute the largest noncombatant evacuation operation in history, Operation Allies Refuge, relocating over 124,000 refugees over a 14-day period.

In his address to Congress in 1951, General Douglas MacArthur noted that "old soldiers never die—they just fade away." Mr. Speaker, I could not in good conscience let Lieutenant General John P. Sullivan simply fade away

without recognizing his sustained loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity, and personal courage over 37 years of devoted service to this great Nation. I wish him and his family well in retirement.

RECOGNIZING MAJOR GENERAL  
BRET DAUGHERTY

HON. MARILYN STRICKLAND

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 13, 2024*

Ms. STRICKLAND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Major General Bret Daugherty, who will retire at the end of this month from the Washington National Guard, after 44 years of service protecting the great state of Washington and our nation.

Major General Daugherty began his military service in 1980, serving nine years on Active Duty in the Army. After transitioning to the Army National Guard, he rose to the rank of Adjutant General and became the longest-serving National Guard leader in the United States.

At the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, Major General Daugherty navigated unprecedented emergencies across the state of Washington with diligence. Whether he was facilitating access to vaccinations and masks, responding to some of our state's worst natural disasters, or ensuring the security of our national elections, he completed these duties with unfaltering resiliency.

Major General Daugherty's accomplishments also laid the groundwork for an improved collaborative environment that Washingtonians benefit from today. When I had the honor of meeting with him in 2021, I was particularly inspired by his dedication to public service and commitment to supporting the members of Washington's National Guard. His mindfulness of the future of our nation, and care for the personnel who serve it, are clear in both his words and actions.

I commend Major General Daugherty on his decades of service to Washingtonians and the Guard. Congratulations on his retirement and may he enjoy this next chapter.

RECOGNIZING THE 45TH ANNIVERSARY OF EVAPCO, INC. IN MADERA COUNTY

HON. JOHN S. DUARTE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 13, 2024*

Mr. DUARTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the momentous occasion of Evapco's 45th anniversary and the significant completion of the Sierra building expansion in 2024.

Evapco is a global industry-leading manufacturing company with global resources and solutions for worldwide heat transfer applications, it is employee owned, and was founded in the United States. Evapco launched its second U.S. manufacturing company in Madera, California, in 1979, and now employs more than 234 individuals.

Evapco's expansion in Madera County has not only created more jobs in the congressional district that I represent but is also a testament to my constituents' dedication and hard work. It also has bolstered Evapco's production capabilities and will help it meet growing demand for advanced cooling solutions in our community, the Central Valley of California, and beyond.

My constituents enjoy working for Evapco as it follows the vision of "one global team, united to be universally recognized as the superior provider of a full spectrum of heat transfer solutions." And its commitment to teamwork has enabled its employees—my constituents—to excel. It is a team their employees and customers alike can count on for a lifetime.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in celebrating Evapco's 45th anniversary in California and recognizing its success in expanding in my district to produce innovative water-saving, "Eco-Air" dry-cooling products, which will improve the quality of life of my constituents, Californians, and communities around the world.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF  
DETECTIVE PAUL DIGIACOMO—  
JUNE 26, 2024

HON. NICOLE MALLIOTAKIS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 13, 2024*

Ms. MALLIOTAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to include in the RECORD the following Proclamation honoring the retirement of Detective Paul DiGiacomo:

Whereas: Detective Paul DiGiacomo, President of the Detectives' Endowment Association, Inc. (DEA), is to be recognized on June 26, 2024, on the occasion of his retirement from the New York Police Department. The people of New York City thank him for his four decades of service and his commitment to representing the interests of approximately 18,000 active and retired New York Police Department Detectives, the largest detectives' union globally.

Whereas: A Brooklyn native and the son of a transit police officer, Detective DiGiacomo commenced his service in law enforcement with the Housing Police in 1983 before transitioning to the New York Police Department in 1985.

Whereas: Throughout his distinguished career spanning nearly four decades, Detective DiGiacomo has served in various capacities, from patrolling the 70th Precinct in Brooklyn to working in plainclothes with the Borough's Anti-Crime Unit, demonstrating his dedication to protecting and serving the community.

Whereas: Detective DiGiacomo's ascent within the NYPD ranks was marked by his diligent work in the Brooklyn South Narcotics unit, where he rose to prominence in the Major Case Unit while concurrently advocating for his fellow officers as a delegate for the Patrolmen's Benevolent Association (PBA).

Whereas: Recognized for his exceptional investigative skills, Detective DiGiacomo earned his Detective's gold shield in 1993 and contin-

ued to excel in assignments within the Organized Crime Investigation Division (OCID), including roles in various gun units and narcotics task forces.

Whereas: In 1999, Detective DiGiacomo assumed the role of Sergeant-at-Arms for the DEA, a position he held with distinction until his promotion to Detective, second grade, by the NYPD in December 2001, in recognition of his exemplary service in an extensive undercover operation related to the homicide of a Queens Police Officer.

Whereas: Detective DiGiacomo's leadership within the DEA continued to evolve as he was elected to successive positions on the Executive Board, culminating in his appointment as President in January 2020, where he now leads the union in navigating challenges ranging from collective bargaining to legislative advocacy amidst a complex socio-political landscape. DiGiacomo spearheads all union activity, including collective bargaining, political activities, overseeing the health and welfare funds, the Annuity Fund, and the union's not-for-profit charity, the DEA Widows' and Children's Fund. The union also engages in a wide variety of internal and external public relations ventures and fraternal functions.

Whereas: Under Detective DiGiacomo's stewardship, the DEA remains steadfast in its mission to protect the rights and welfare of its members, advocating against detrimental policies such as "bail reform" and spearheading initiatives like the legislation named after Detective Brian Simonsen aimed at combating cellphone theft.

Whereas: Despite facing unprecedented challenges, including the COVID-19 pandemic, natural disasters, and civil unrest, Detective DiGiacomo remains resolute in his commitment to advancing the interests of NYPD Detectives with unwavering solidarity and dedication.

It is with great admiration and gratitude that we recognize Detective Paul DiGiacomo for his exceptional leadership and tireless advocacy on behalf of the dedicated men and women of the New York Police Department.

WELCOME PARKER HANNAH  
GRISHAM

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 13, 2024*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, congratulations to Preston and Alyssa Grisham, of West Columbia, South Carolina, on the birth of their new baby daughter, Parker Hannah Grisham was born on June 6, 2024, at 11:44 a.m., weighing 7 pounds and 7 ounces at Lexington Medical Center, West Columbia. She has been born into a loving home, where she will be raised by her parents who are devoted to her well-being and bright future. Parker is also blessed with three wonderful grandparents, Mattie Grisham, Cindy Greenberg, and Todd Douty. Her birth is a blessing. On behalf of my wife Roxanne, and our entire family, we want to wish Preston, Alyssa, and Parker all the best.